

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An enterprise directory service apparatus, comprising:
 - 2 a data store having a plurality of directory entries;
 - 3 a web server having an API coupled to said data store, for
4 sending a query to said data store and receiving a directory
5 entry; and
 - 6 a wrapper coupled to said API for accepting said query from a
user application.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data store is a
2 relational database.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data store is an LDAP
2 data store.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said web server has a
2 plurality of API coupled to said data store, each API adapted to
3 send said query to said data store and receive one of said
4 plurality of directory entries.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising a plurality of
2 wrappers each said wrapper coupled to one or more of said
3 plurality of API, and each said wrapper adapted to accept said
4 query from one of a plurality of user applications.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising an API locator on
2 said web server for selecting one of said plurality of API in
3 response to said query from said one of said plurality of said
4 user applications.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said API is adapted to
2 receive one of said plurality of directory entries from said data
3 store and send said one of said directory entries to said user
4 application.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said API is adapted to send
2 said one of said directory entries to said user application
3 through said wrapper.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein said API is adapted to
2 receive said one of said plurality of directory entries in
3 response to said query.

1 10. A method of providing directory service to a user
2 application, said method comprising the steps of:

3 providing a data store having a plurality of directory entries;

4 providing a web server having an API coupled to said data store
5 and a wrapper coupled to said API;

6 receiving at said wrapper a query from a user application, and in
7 response thereto sending said query from said wrapper to said API
8 and thereafter to said data store; and

9 receiving at said API a directory entry from said data store in
10 response to said query, and sending said directory entry to said
11 user application.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein said data store is provided
2 as a relational database.

1 12. The method of claim 10, wherein said data store is provided
2 as a LDAP data store.

1 13. The method of claim 10, wherein said web server is provided
2 having a plurality of API coupled to said data store, each API
3 adapted to send said query to said data store and receive one of
4 said plurality of directory entries.

5 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of
6 providing an API locator coupled to said wrapper and said
7 plurality of API for determining to which one of said plurality
8 of API said wrapper should send said query.

1 15. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of
2 providing a plurality of wrappers, each said wrapper coupled to
3 one or more of said plurality of API, and each said wrapper
4 adapted to accept said query from one of a plurality of user
5 applications.

1 16. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of
2 receiving one of said plurality of directory entries from said
3 data store and sending said one of said directory entries to said
4 user application.

1 17. The method of claim 16, further comprising sending said one
2 of said directory entries to said user application through said
3 wrapper.

1 18. A computer system for providing enterprise directory service,
2 said system comprising:

3 means for providing a data store having a plurality of directory
4 entries;

5 means for providing a web server having an API coupled to said
6 data store and a wrapper coupled to said API;

7 means for receiving at said wrapper a query from a user
8 application, and in response thereto sending said query from said
9 wrapper to said API and thereafter to said data store; and

10 means for receiving at said API a directory entry from said data
11 store in response to said query, and sending said directory entry
12 to said user application.

1 19. The system of claim 18, further comprising an API locator on
2 said web server for selecting said API in response to said query
3 from said user application.

1 20. A computer program product for instructing a processor to
2 provide enterprise directory service, said computer program
3 product comprising:

4 a computer recordable medium:

5 first program instruction means for providing a data store having
6 a plurality of directory entries;

7 second program instruction means for providing a web server
8 having an API coupled to said data store and a wrapper coupled to
9 said API;

10 third program instruction means for receiving at said wrapper a
11 query from a user application, and in response thereto sending
12 said query from said wrapper to said API and thereafter to said
13 data store; and

14 fourth program instruction means for receiving at said API a
15 directory entry from said data store in response to said query,
16 and sending said directory entry to said user application; and
17 wherein

18 all said program instruction means are recorded on said medium.

1 21. The computer program product of claim 19, further comprising
2 fifth program instruction means for providing a wrapper coupled
3 to said API for receiving said query from said user.